UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH ATLANTA

UNITY HONORS COMMUNITY

DECEMBER 4, 2004

11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

PROGRAM

Unity Honors Community

Meet & Greet	11:00 11:15
Opening Prayer/Food Blessing *Deacon Mellonee Rheams*	11:15 11:20
Welcome & Occasion *Deacon Maressa Pendermon*	12:20 12:30
Brunch Served *Music provided by "Sounds by Silk"*	11:30- 12:15
Introduction of MC *Deacon Rikky Isaac*	12:15 - 12:20
Mistress of Ceremony *Imani Evans*	12:20 - 12:25
Song *Drum Sista*	12:25 - 12:30
Introduction of Speaker *Lyric Harmon*	12:30 - 12:35
Keynote *Craig Washington*	12:35 - 12:55
Song *Janiece Thompson*	12:55 - 1:00
Presentation of Awards *Dwayne Baker & Serita King*	1:00 - 1:20
Performance *Lilli Lewis*	1:20 - 1:25
Presentation of Special Awards *Lynn Duhart*	1:25 - 1:35
Presentation of Special Awards *Deacon Maressa Pendermon*	1:35 - 1:45
Closing Remarks *Rev. Antonio Jones*	1:50 - 2:00

HONOREES

These people were chosen because we feel that they exemplify some part of the Unity Fellowship Church mission

Mary Anne Adams is executive director of ZAMI, Inc., "Atlanta's premiere organization for lesbians of African descent." She has lived in Atlanta since 1988, during which she has served on the boards of Charis Circle, YouthPride, and the Feminist Women's Health Center. She was also an inaugural member of the LGBT Advisory Council to the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta.

Adams founded and developed ZAMI's Audre Lorde Scholarship fund, a national fund which has awarded 49 $1000 scholarships to out black lesbians and gay men since 1997. She also founded Sister Outsider, an Atlanta-based group for racially diverse lesbians 35 and older to become proactive around aging issues.

A social worker with Georgia State University's graduate school of social work, Adams was the first out black lesbian to win an award as an unsung heroine award from the metro Atlanta Coalition of 100 black women. She most recently was honored by the National Center for Human Rights Education as a guardian angel of human rights. She holds a master's degree in Social Work and is a certified anti-oppression trainer/facilitator.

Edith Biggers diligently works in the HIV/AIDS community as an employee of the Department of Health where she serves persons with HIV/AIDS with compassion. .She serves on the ZAMI, Black AIDS Institute, and AIDS Survival Project boards.

Kevin Bynes is a long time advocate for LGBT Youth, prolific writer and poet. From his work founding My Brothaz Keeper, to his laborious tenure with YouthPride Kevin has distinguished himself as an unapologetic speaker of truths for many not called to the table to speak for themselves.

Kevin works for AID Atlanta, planning, developing, and evaluating programs for African American Gay men. He also serves on the Advisory Board of Los Angeles based National Black AIDS Institute where he advises about the development of HIV prevention curriculums for the African American HIV University and the Internal review board of the National Youth Advocacy Coalition.

For his tireless work Kevin has been recognized by, Advocates for Youth, Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Adolescent Social Services (GLASS), The Center For Human Rights Education, and The National Youth Advocacy Coalition. Recently, Kevin was accepted into the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Institute for HIV Prevention Leadership.

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Rudolph H. Carn, CEO/Executive Director of National AIDS Education & Services for Minorities, Inc. is a 1977 graduate of St. Francis College in New York with emphasis in Math and Education, Mr. Carn also obtained a diploma in Nursing from the Los Angeles Southwest College in Los Angeles, California becoming a Registered Nurse in 1988. Mr. Carn served as Rehabilitation Services Coordinator/Assistant Director of Nursing and was responsible for the operations of the 242 bed nursing facility at CareHaven of Lake City in Lake City, Georgia until 1992. Rudy Carn founded AIDS Education & Services for Minorities, Inc. (AESM) in November, 1990 for the purpose of educating the African American community about the phenomenal effects of the AIDS. Mr. Carn has secured funding from the Ryan White Title I, The United States Conference of Mayors, Housing opportunity for People with AIDS (HOPWA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), United Way AIDS Fund, Metro Atlanta Community Foundation, the National AIDS Fund, Funds for Southern Communities, Georgia Shares and CFC throughout the past ten years to maintain the programs established by the organization. NAESM offers transitional housing for homeless Gay Black Men infected with HIV/AIDS virus along with educational support groups, outreach programs in the local Gay community and throughout the country. Mr. Carn plans, promotes and provides overall guidance, vision and direction for the organization.

Aida Rentas, a native of Puerto Rico, moved to Atlanta in 1992 from New York. Upon arriving in Atlanta, she founded Latinos En Accion, a networking group for Gay and Lesbian people of Latino decent. She also founded Grass Roots Institute for Children in 2002, a venue for young people of culturally diverse backgrounds ages 6-14 to express their creativity through arts and culture. Aida has received the HRC Community Award (1996) and the Southern Voice Community Activist Award (1995). She was a founding member of the Georgia Equality Project board. She has also served as board member on Atlanta Community Center ,WRFG (Vice President), and PTV. She was the Senior Advisor of Gay and Lesbian Issues to Mayor Campbell and Panel Chair of the Civilian Review Board. She has worked as the Volunteer Coordinator for the National Black Arts Festival for six year, Atlanta Jazz Festival 2003. Aida is currently employed by The Names Project, the AIDS Memorial Quilt.

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Michael Slaughter has been a resident of Southwest Atlanta for over five years with his partner, Eric Flavors. Originally from California, Michael has made Atlanta his second home town. Starting as a volunteer assisting his partner with In The Life Atlanta's Black Gay Pride and the National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum conference in 2000, he is now very active in the LGBT community. He currently serves as the board Co-Chair for In The Life Atlanta. He also sits on the board of directors of Georgia Equality, a statewide political advocacy group.

Craig Washington is the Volunteer and Training Coordinator at Positive Impact, an agency which provides free individual and group counseling for people affected by HIV. He developed HIV prevention programs for black communities and gay and bisexual black men at AID Atlanta including The Deeper Love Project and was the Co-Chair for Second Sunday, a support organization for gay and bisexual men of African descent. He has written various articles and editorials for the Atlanta Journal Constitution, Atlanta Voice, Clikque, Venus, Washington Blade and Southern Voice. Mr. Washington has led several workshops addressing the nature and effects of oppression and is a trainer for NCBI, an international group that helps people to understand and deal with prejudice. He is currently enrolled as a Social Work student at Georgia State University. He is writing a novel and will soon present his new website craigwerks.com.

Malik M. L. Williams hails from Detroit and relocated to Atlanta in 1991. Malik serves as African-American Gay Outreach Coordinator at AID Atlanta and founder of Brotha Love Images; an affirming photography studio featuring beautiful Black men. A writer and public speaker, his performances with ADODI Muse have led to credits with writer-directors Sonya Hemphill, Kalvin Burnett and Lynwoodt Jenkins. His writing has been in Poets Journal, 2nd Read, Rolling Out Urbanstyle Weekly, Clikque Magazine, Venus Magazine, and the anthology The Spirit in the Words 2000. Malik is especially excited about concluding his first novel, and beginning work on a self-help book about gay male relationships. Malik strives to live his personal credo: "Everything you believe about yourself is true ... or will be."

PERFORMERS

Drum Sista is an Atlanta-based African American performance group.

Lilli Lewis is an eclectic sing, songwriter, and composer from Athens, GA. This spring she performed with Drum Sista of ZAMI at the Southern Womyn's Music Festival and Atlanta's Midtown. Her unique blend of jazz classical and folk music can be heard on local stations such WCLK and WRST.

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Janiece Thompson began singing Gospel music at age 4 when she became star soloist with The Thompson Family Singers, touring extensively under the direction of her mother, a church music director. A highly respected New York concert and session singer, Janiece has recorded as featured with the Lavender Light Gospel Choir, appeared on PBS and toured with Lavender Light, The Crossroad Singers and her own quartet, Pillars of Salt. Since moving to Atlanta, she has performed at the Atlanta Black Gay Pride and Atlanta Pride's June 2004 celebration. She has also performed on the Lady Fest South and Southern Womyn's Music Festival stages. Janiece is experienced in every style of African-American Vocal music, including Gospel, R&B, folk, Pop, Jazz, and Blues.

OUR MISSION

Unity Fellowship Church Movement Clergy and members are charged to walk in the power of LOVE, as Jesus, the Christ taught and lived. Therefore, in order to demonstrate the essence of LOVE in our lives we will:

- **Feed** the families and shelter our sisters & brother;
- **Visit** and care for the sick and shut-in;
- **Comfort** and pray with the distressed;
- **Clothe** the naked, touching all those who desire our compassion;
- **Affirm** the disavowed;
- **Empower** the disenfranchised;
- **and LOVE everyone.**

SPECIAL THANKS

Druid Hills Presbyterian Church

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Drum Sista

✦

Imani Evans

✦

Lilli Lewis

✦

Pfizer

✦

Silk

✦

Janiece Thompson

✦

Craig Washington

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